Appln. No.: 10/522,044 PC10483US

Amendment Dated December 18, 2008 Reply to Office Action of December 9, 2008

Remarks:

Claim 26 has been amended into independent form, to incorporate the base claim and any intervening claims, in view of the Decision on Appeal from the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment and passage of the application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher A. Rothe, Reg. No. 54,650

Attorney for Applicants

CAR/ems

Dated: December 18, 2008

The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **18-0350** for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith.